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**CONTROVERSIES:****Chemical Reaction**

In the postwar era, few hard-pressed universities have been able to resist the temptation of secret government research—and the fat slice of Federal funds that goes with it. As a result, they have occasionally found themselves embarrassingly enmeshed in the covert, war-making projects of the CIA, the Pentagon, and other Federal agencies. One such instance of a mutually profitable academic-governmental partnership blossomed quietly on the West Philadelphia campus of the University of Pennsylvania—until the disclosure that one of the nation's oldest universities had for twelve years been engaged in highly classified investigations into gas and germ warfare.

Shocked students and dismayed faculty members learned that the innocuously titled Institute for Cooperative Research on the second floor of a shabby brick building on the edge of the campus had in fact handled a whole series of exotically named chemical-research projects for the Pentagon—Wasp, White-wing, Summit and Spicerack. The Institute's director, Professor Knut Krieger, had no apologies for work which, he insisted, was vital to the nation. A university, Krieger said, "has some responsibility to defend the free society."

But last week the debate among faculty and students over the university's secret research had become so shrill and divisive that Penn president Gaylord P. Harnwell announced he is abolishing the institute, adding the promise that the university in future would avoid all contracts that deny it the right to publish research results. But though the institute has been ordered to fold up, it will first pursue some unfinished business. For projects Spicerack and Summit, contracts worth \$845,000 have still to be completed. And the venerable University of Pennsylvania intends to fulfill its obligations.